

CLAIMS

[0042] We claim:

1. A method comprising ordering channels to be scanned by a station based on an associative history of said station.
2. A method as in claim 1, wherein said ordering comprises:
ordering said channels to be scanned at a time of day of an association attempt based on the frequency of past associations by said station with an access point at said time of day of said association attempt.
3. A method as in claim 1, wherein said ordering comprises:
ordering said channels to be scanned based on the number of past successful associations by such station with an access point.
4. A method as in claim 1, wherein said ordering comprises:
ordering said channels to be scanned based on the frequency of past successful associations by such station with an access point.
5. A method as in claim 1, wherein said ordering comprises:
ordering said channels to be scanned based on the transmission quality in past associations by such station with an access point.
6. A method as in claim 5, wherein said ordering based on transmission quality comprises:
evaluating past data transmission rates of said access point.
7. A method as in claim 5, wherein said ordering based on transmission quality comprises:
evaluating past receiving rates of said access point.
8. A method as in claim 1, further comprising:
determining if said station is in a region where channels upon which said access point broadcasts include channels other than channels with which said station has an associative history.
9. A method as in claim 1, further comprising:
determining if a user profile of said station directs an order for scanning channels.
10. A method as in claim 1, wherein said ordering comprises:

determining a final order of channels to be scanned based on at least two orders of channels to be scanned.

11. A method as in claim 10, wherein said determining comprises weighting the importance of at least two orders of channels to be scanned.
12. A device comprising a controller to scan channels in an order determined by an associative history of a station.
13. A device as in claim 12, comprising a storage unit to store said associative history of said station.
14. A device as in claim 12, wherein said associative history includes at least a record of the time of day of prior associations by said station with at least one peer.
15. A device as in claim 12, wherein said associative history includes at least a record of association success rates by said station with at least one peer.
16. A device as in claim 12, wherein said associative history includes a record of the quality of a prior associations with at least one peer.
17. A device as in claim 16, wherein said quality of a prior association comprises transmission rates of said at least one peer.
18. A device as in claim 16, wherein said quality of a prior association comprises receiving rates of said at least one peer.
19. A device as in claim 12, wherein said controller to determine if said station is in a region wherein channels upon which said station may associate include channels other than channels with which said station has an associative history.
20. A device as in claim 12, wherein said controller to determine whether a user profile dictates an order of channels to be scanned by said station.
21. A device as in claim 12, wherein said associative history comprises data on prior associations between a station and a network.
22. A device as in claim 21, wherein said network is a wireless local area network.
23. An article comprising a storage medium, having stored thereon instructions, that when executed, result in:

arranging channels in a sequence for scanning by a station based on an associative history of said station.
24. An article as in claim 23, wherein said instructions when executed further result in:

arranging said channels in a sequence for scanning by a station based on a user profile.

25. An article as in claim 23, wherein said instructions when executed further result in:

weighting the importance of at least two sequences of channels to be scanned.

26. A device comprising:

a dipole antenna, and

a controller to scan channels in a sequence determined by an associative history of a station.

27. A device as in claim 26, comprising a memory to record an associative history of said station.

28. A device as in claim 26, wherein said memory to store a user profile.